TALK ABOUT TEXTS

Famous Flyers



Written by Cara Torrance

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For Review Only

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Powered Flight

The world changed once humans achieved powered flight. People and goods could be moved quickly over vast distances. They could travel all over the world.

Humans had wanted to fly for a long time. It took many years for people to make machines that could carry them through the sky.

Richard Pearse, Bessie Coleman and Sally Ride were all famous flyers. They took great risks. They broke down barriers so they could fly. Their achievements still inspire people today.

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Early planes, such as this biplane, were piloted by brave men and women.

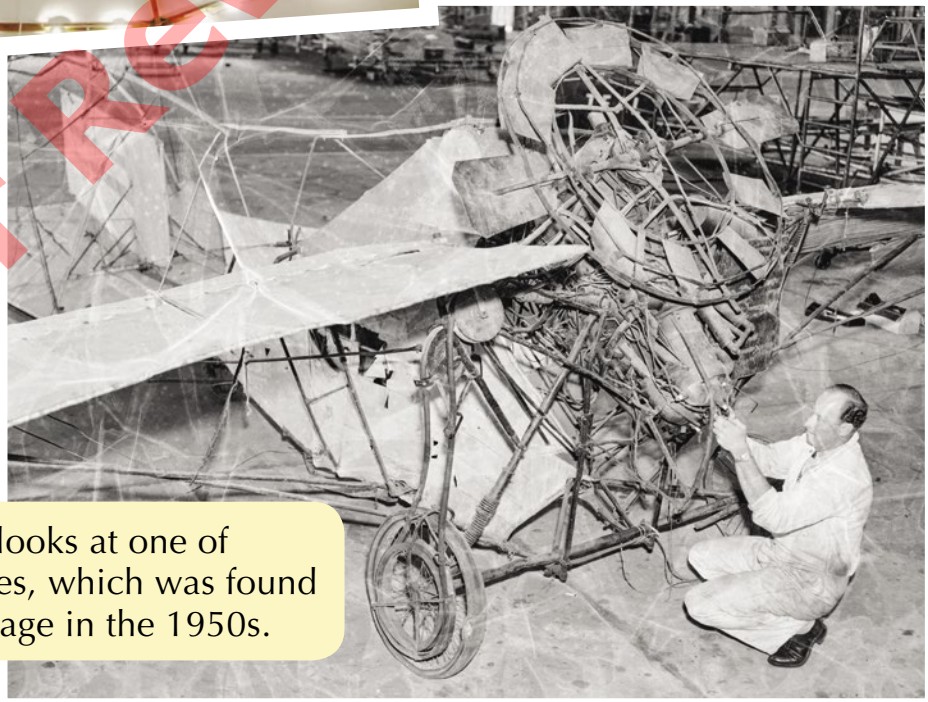


Pearse had no training and no one to help him with his design. Yet, on 31 March 1903, Pearse seems to have achieved the world's first powered flight, in the plane he built.

Pearse's flight was eight months before the famous Wright brothers' flight.



A copy of Pearse's plane can be seen at South Canterbury Museum in Timaru, New Zealand.



An engineer looks at one of Pearse's planes, which was found in his old garage in the 1950s.

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The Flight of the Wright Brothers

In the USA, the Wright brothers were also designing and building planes. In December 1903, in front of witnesses, they made the first powered flight. The brothers instantly became world famous. Newspapers reported on the event.





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